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Patentanmeldung Nr.   Patent application No.   Demande de brevet n°

02100205.0

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R C van Dijk

Anmeldung Nr:
Application no.: 02100205.0
Demande no:

Anmeldetag:
Date of filing: 28.02.02
Date de dépôt:

Anmelder/Applicant(s)/Demandeur(s):

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Bezeichnung der Erfindung/Title of the invention/Titre de l'invention:
(Falls die Bezeichnung der Erfindung nicht angegeben ist, siehe Beschreibung.
If no title is shown please refer to the description.
Si aucun titre n'est indiqué se referer à la description.)

Method for defining a job ticket in a pre-press workflow system

In Anspruch genommene Priorïät(en) / Priority(ies) claimed /Priorité(s)
revendiquée(s)
Staat/Tag/Aktenzeichen/State/Date/File no./Pays/Date/Numéro de dépôt:

Internationale Patentklassifikation/International Patent Classification/
Classification internationale des brevets:

G06F3/12

Am Anmeldetag benannte Vertragstaaten/Contracting states designated at date of
filing/Etats contractants désignées lors du dépôt:

AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE TR

[ABSTRACT]

METHOD FOR DEFINING A JOB TICKET IN A PRE-PRESS WORKFLOW SYSTEM

A method for defining a job ticket in a pre-press workflow. An
input channel and a job ticket are defined. The job ticket
definition comprises the input channel definition.

[DESCRIPTION]

Most modern pre-press workflow systems are job ticket driven. Data processing activities are controlled by job tickets. A Job Ticket defines how a job is to be assembled and processed. It defines the pages that are to be assembled, the processing features to be used (imposition, separation, trapping, overprinting, rasterization, etc.), and the output engine to which the rendered job will be sent. The Job Ticket Editor allows you to create and modify Job Tickets.

In all prior art an input mechanism needs to be associated with the job ticket. Typical input channels can be hot folders, TCP/IP streaming, Appletalk, FTP etc.. When documents (content) is dropped in such an input channel, the document will be processed according to the specified Job tickets.

The invention turns the paradigm around and includes the input channel definition(s) within the job ticket. In other words, the Job Ticket Editor, also sets up the input mechanisms for the specified job and stores that definition within the job ticket. Job tickets can be stored in an extendable standard format like Adobe's PJTF or CIP4 - JDF. The invention can therefore be called "Job embedded Channels".

Advantages of the new approach are:

- Multiple input channels can be defined within one job
- Input channels can be stored together with the job in the job ticket for system consistency
- Input channels can be easily stopped when jobs are completed.
- Separate processing steps and/or settings can be defined for each input channel in a job.

- 3 -

[CLAIMS]

1. A method for defining a job ticket in a pre-press workflow system, the method comprising the steps of:

   —defining an input channel;

   —defining a job ticket;

   characterized in that said job ticket definition comprises said input channel definition.

2. The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

   —defining a second input channel;

   wherein said job ticket definition comprises said second input channel definition.

3. A data processing system comprising means for carrying out the steps of the method according to claim 1 or claim 2.

4. A computer program comprising computer program code means adapted to perform the steps of the method of claim 1 or claim 2 when said program is run on a computer.

5. A computer readable medium comprising program code adapted to carry out the method of claim 1 or claim 2 when run on a computer.